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PATENT

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S N 09-616,526

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ABDUL MALAK ET AL. Examiner: T. STRZELECKA
Serial No.: 09/616,526 Group Art Unit: 1656
Filed: JULY 14, 2000 Docket No.: 11123.15US01
Title: PROCESSES FOR THE PREPARATION OF NOVEL COLLAGEN-BASED SUPPORTS FOR TISSUE ENGINEERING, AND BIOMATERIALS OBTAINED

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 27, 2001.

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 18, 2001, Applicants are presenting the following amendments to the claims and are responding as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer:

1. Amendment to the Claims

Cancel claims 46-49 and introduce in lieu thereof new claims 53-58 as follows:

53. (New) The artificial skin of claim 43, wherein said artificial skin comprises living cells obtained substantially exclusively from young cells originated from young subjects.

54. (New) The artificial skin of claim 43, wherein said artificial skin comprises living cells obtained substantially exclusively from aged cells originated from elderly subjects.

55. (New) A method of in vitro testing of the efficacy of a potential active substance comprising and using an artificial skin comprising living cells prepared substantially exclusively